

**BUSINESS & LABOR**

EXHIBIT NO. 2 Memo
DATE 1/19/09
BILL NO. 556

TO: Jay Anderson
FROM: Brad Nelson
DATE: February 11, 2008
RE: Port of Turner (Climax)

Jay,

I have outlined below some background information that hopefully provides you with an understanding of why our preference is to utilize the Port of Turner (Climax) versus other entry ports.

U.S. Entries:

We have two types of shipments to US destinations. One is a wholegoods shipment, which is something sold as a complete product (ie: Grain Belt header). The other is a replacement or aftermarket parts shipment.

- Wholegoods Shipments - the majority of our "wholegoods" shipments are expedited thru the Port of North Portal. North Portal is designated a commercial port and has brokerage services on site. We were "officially" notified (in 2005) by US Customs that all of our wholegoods shipments must move thru a port designated as a "commercial entry port", unless the final destination for the shipment was within the State of Montana - in which case we have a permit that allows us to ship using the Port of Turner (Climax) or the Port of Morgan (Monchy).
- Replacement Parts Shipments - shipments designated as "replacement parts" can be expedited thru any commercial port or the Port of Turner (Climax) or the Port of Morgan (Monchy). The final destination rule does not come into play for these types of shipments - the final destination can be anywhere in the United States.

US Customs entries of replacement parts shipments are much more frequent than wholegoods entries. Through the Port of Turner (Climax) we average, on an annual basis, **3 trips per week**. During the peak season (May thru Sept) that increases to **1 trip per day**.

- It is 23 miles (37km) from our plant site to the Port of Turner (Climax) and an additional 11 miles (17km) to Turner, Montana where we can expedite UPS, US Postal Service as well as FedEx shipments. The Port of Morgan (Monchy) is 47 miles (75km) from our plant and another 52 miles (84km) to Malta where we could expedite using the same services.
- Normally we can turn around a Port of Turner (Climax) entry in 2 to 3 hours. Turn around time for Monchy would be a full day - the primary reason is of course, travel time.

Canadian Entries:

We also expedite incoming shipments through the Port of Turner (Climax). We have components drop shipped at either Turner or Harlem, Montana and pick them up from those locations. In the past we used this service for any size shipment but because of handling issues at the drop locations we now try to restrict the use to partial or smaller units – primarily parts/components that we need on an emergency basis to avoid a shutdown of our production or assembly line. UPS offers “UPS Blue” service to both Harlem and Turner, which means we can have the part(s) in two days. (If we had to route those parts through Canada, experience has shown us it would take 6 to 8 days.)

For Honey Bee it is pretty obvious that the distance advantage offered by the Port of Turner (Climax) makes it our port of choice. It's proximity to our plant simply provides the best opportunity for us to serve our customers on a timely basis. The possibility of extending the hours of the port or having it designated a commercial port would have a positive impact on our business and most certainly have a positive impact on the communities which are located on the highway route itself.

If you have any questions please feel free to call me.

Sincerely,



Brad Nelson, General Manager



Honey Bee Manufacturing Ltd.

Email: Brad.nelson@honeybee.ca

Phone: 1-306-296-2297

Fax: 1-306-296-2165

Cypress Agri Energy Inc.
P.O. Box 327, 410 Centre Street
Shaunavon, SK S0N 2M0
Phone: (306) 297-3313 Fax: (306) 297-3338
Website: www.cypressagrienergy.ca

February 8, 2008

Jay Anderson
Turner, MT

Dear Jay,

RE: PORT OF CLIMAX BORDER CROSSING

In regards to our previous telephone conversation, please find the below the full support of Cypress Agri Energy Inc. for your efforts in working towards educating the importance of extending the hours of operation for the Port of Climax border crossing.

Cypress Agri Energy is a proposed 150 million litre per year (40 million gallon per year) ethanol plant. This plant will be located at Shaunavon, Saskatchewan. Shaunavon is about a half hour from the Port of Climax.

To date, we have had consultants traveling up through the US to our offices. Often they will have to spend an extra night either here or in Havre because of the hours of operation at the port. Being that we are paying for their travel and their time, having extended hours at the Port of Climax could potentially save Cypress Agri Energy Inc. a lot of money.

Once construction begins, there will be travel in and out of the US on a more regular basis. If the hours could be extended, it would be much easier to make travel plans as unfortunately, the airport doesn't look at port hours before scheduling departure and arrivals.

On another note, there may well be equipment being trucked through the port on a regular basis for the fifteen months of construction as over 50% of our equipment will be brought up from the US.

Once built, the spin offs from this industry will be ten fold. In looking at same size plants being built in towns the same size as Shaunavon, it shows that the population of the area should double. This, in turn, will mean more cross border shoppers to cross at the Climax port.

Cypress Agri Energy Inc. fully supports the idea of having the Port of Climax open extended hours, or even better 24 hours. Please feel free to contact me directly if there is anything further you require or if you have any questions.

In closing, I would like to applaud you for your lobbying efforts for this very important issue.

Sincerely,

Karri Sachkowsky, Corporate Secretary
Cypress Agri Energy Inc.



THE CITY OF HARLEM
A Municipal Corporation
The Heartbeat of the Milk River Valley
10 1st Avenue SW
PO Box 579
Harlem, Montana 59526
406-353-2361 (Office) – 406-353-2361(Fax)

February 8, 2008

Shonovan Mayor Dickie
Shonovan, Saskatchewan

Dear Mayor Dickie,

City of Harlem is writing this letter in support of a change in the hours that the Port of Turner is open. The current operating hours are not sufficient to support transportation between Canada and the United States.

The Port of Turner could be a major travel route between Canada and the United States. The restrictive operating hours of the Port of Turner is hindering the connection between US Hwy 2 and Canadian highway 1. There are too many miles between the two closest 24 hour ports, Port of Raymond and the Port of Sweetgrass.

The fact that the Port of Turner is not a 24 hour port is having a severe negative impact on the local economy. Transportation has been forced to take alternative routes. The Port of Turner would become a major travel route if it was open 24 hours a day. This would support economic activity on both sides of the border.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Kinyon
Mayor



THE CHINOOK AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Supporting Growth in the Community

Jay Anderson/Alan VanVoast
Sask-Mont Rural Development
1375 Wing Road
Hogeland, MT 59529

April 3, 2008

RE: Port of Climax US/Canada Border Crossing

Dear Legislators,

I would urge you to review the extension of the hours of the Port of Turner/Climax border crossing as the Chinook Area Chamber of Commerce supports this excellent project. Having been in the field of community development, it is crucial for our area to support any project that will benefit our community as a whole. For example, the Port of Turner/Climax extension of hours will significantly impact our community and will increase through traffic for all of our businesses in the town of Chinook. The economic impact that would occur from this project is immense, when considering the current economic structure of our small community. Please consider this my request to extend the hours of operation at the Port of Turner/Climax crossing as every aspect of this project remains beneficial to the town of Chinook, Montana.

In our community, we have excellent tourism stops, such as the Bear Paw Battlefield, Blaine County Museum and Blaine County Wildlife Museum. These alone, draw attention to our community as well as our excellent parks, rest areas, and our great business community. You can guarantee that a traveler will enjoy their stop in Chinook, Montana on their way to Glacier National Park or any other destination.

In closing, I would like to again stress the importance of this project, and how it can benefit our community as a whole, as well as numerous other communities along the hi-line. The members of the Sask-Mont Rural Development Group should be commended for their excellent efforts to support this very important issue. As a community leader, I would hope you will consider my letter of support significant in determining which port will remain a 24-hour crossing. I truly disagree with making the Port of Wildhorse a 24 hour port, as it would benefit no one in the Canadian and American side, except Havre. Thank you for your time, and again, I stress my support of this project thoroughly.

Sincerely,

Charles Hewitt
Chinook Area Chamber of Commerce President
Chinook, Montana
www.ChinookMontana.com

To Promote Extended Access through Port of Climax/Port of Turner

The Village of Climax, its Municipal Government and the area residents are strongly supportive and encourage the extension of operating hours at the Port of Climax.

The establishment of a 24hour commercial port of entry would aid us in our plans for economic growth in Southwest Saskatchewan. The increased hours of operation would provide access for our trade ventures with the United States. Increased trade would be the result if it were made more convenient to do business over more hours.

More importantly to the communities that are in close proximity of the border, would be the opportunity to better blend with our neighbors. We have limited chances to intermingle and share social events as well as to do business. The opening of the border during limited hours restricts the flow of traffic and prevents local dwellers from participating in each other's communities. We express a need to build congenial relationships with our nearest neighbors, and to build trading relationships among nearby communities.

The stretch of Highway going through the Port of Climax is a direct route from Saskatoon, Sask. and points north, south to California. It also links conveniently with other main traffic routes such as through Billings, Montana to Denver, Colorado and south. Our highway is in good condition and is built to handle primary weight loads. There are several communities along this route, either side of the border to provide service to travelers.

Tourist travelers are drawn to many attractions in southwest Saskatchewan, everything from the small community museum to the T-Rex Center, the Grasslands National Park and Cypress Hills Provincial Park. Highways 37 and 24 to the south provide direct access to wealth of activity in the southwest.

The Port of Climax is located centrally between the already established 24-hour ports along the southern Saskatchewan and southern Alberta borders. The port itself has been newly constructed to modern standards and was planned for efficiency and security. The design provides housing for Border Service personnel. The International Border Enforcement Team of the RCMP have established their western office in this area and provide border surveillance and intelligence gathering to protect our international border.

Our industries of the area require the designation of a commercial port and extra access to markets south of the border. The early closure of this port interferes with conducting business in an expedient fashion and can create extra travel and expense for companies. This area is home to a large farm equipment manufacturer and a proposed Mustard processing Plant.

Please consider our interest and request to have the Port of Climax's operational hours extended, as there are many economic and social advantages to doing so and it would be less expensive to achieve at this location.

The Village of Climax
Mayor and Council



SHAUNAVON MINOR HOCKEY

February 8, 2008

Jay Anderson
Turner, MT

Dear Jay,

RE: PORT OF CLIMAX BORDER CROSSING

In regards to our previous telephone conversation, please find the below the full support of Shaunavon Minor Hockey for your efforts in working towards educating the importance of extending the hours of operation for the Port of Climax border crossing.

Shaunavon minor hockey would very much be in favour of having the border hours extended at the port of Climax. There are eight teams in our local minor hockey system and several of them travel to and from the US for hockey tournaments. Because of the short window of border crossing hours, often kids have to take time off of school or parents time off work to get around the border crossing schedule. We have American teams traveling up here to our tournaments as well and they face the same thing. It would be very beneficial to have the border at Climax open longer hours.

Shaunavon Minor Hockey fully supports the idea of having the Port of Climax open extended hours, or even better 24 hours. Please feel free to contact me directly @ 306-297-2943 if there is anything further you require or if you have any questions.

In closing, I would like to applaud you for your lobbying efforts for this very important issue.

Sincerely,

Karri Sachkowsky, Secretary
Shaunavon Minor Hockey

PO Box 734

Shaunavon, SK



April 10, 2008

Jay Anderson
Sask-Mont Rural Development
1375 Wing Rd.
Hogeland, MT.USA
59529
406-379-2675
saskmont@mtintouch.net

Dear Mr. Jay Anderson:

Re: Port of Climax 24 hour Border Crossing

The Rural Municipality of White Valley No. 49 and Town of Eastend fully support a 24 hour port of entry at Climax, Sask. The municipalities of White Valley and Eastend believe the Port located at Climax is the most logical site for a 24 hour port.

The Climax port of entry is the most direct route from Billings, Montana into South Western Saskatchewan. The facilities at the port have already been constructed to modern standards for efficiency and security. As well this port is in close proximity to the International Border Enforcement team stationed in Eastend.

Highway #37 has been built to accommodate Primary weight standards and links directly to the Trans Canada Highway No.1. This route services the communities of Climax, Frontier, Shaunavon, Eastend, Gull Lake, Maple Creek and Swift Current as well as Honey Bee Manufacturing, the largest manufacturer in south west Saskatchewan.

Climax is a central location for tourism travel within south west corner of Saskatchewan. This route is located between Fort Walsh Historical Park, Cypress Hills Inter-provincial Park, Eastend's T-rex Discovery Centre, and Grasslands National Park.

A 24 hour port at Climax would increase trade between the United States and Canada, as well as positively impact the communities along the route in both countries.

Submitted on behalf of the
Town of Eastend
R.M. of White Valley No. 49

T.rex Discovery Centre Inc.

Box 646, Eastend, Saskatchewan, S0N 0T0



Ph. (306) 295-4144
Fax (306) 295-4702
E-mail: trex1@sasktel.net
www.trexcentre.com

12th February 2008

To whom it may concern

As General Manager of the T.rex Discovery Centre, and on behalf of the Board of Directors, I would support wholeheartedly a 24 hr border crossing at the Port of Climax..

As a flagship attraction in the Southwest of Saskatchewan our accessibility to US visitors is currently limited by the restricted border access into the province. Increased hours at the Port of Climax is preferable because;

- It would enable visitors from both sides of the border to easily access the T.rex Discovery Centre and Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park. As well as the Montana Dinosaur Trail.
- Highway 37 is in good condition and offers good services and quicker access to the Trans Canada Highway as well as Highway 2 in Montana.
- The port of Climax affords easy access into the heart of the SW Tourism region and Horseshoe Scenic Route.
- The port of Climax also offers a shorter travel time to Havre for Canadian residents in the SW region for shopping and services (without having to keep our fingers crossed that we will get to the border before it closes!)

Please feel free to contact me at any time to discuss the points outlined above.

Kindest regards

Heather Gibson
General Manager

Sent E-mail



SHAUNAVON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

P.O. Box 1048, Shaunavon, SK S0N 2M0



February 12, 2008

Charmaine Bernath – Administrator
Town of Shaunavon
Box 820,
Shaunavon, Saskatchewan
S0N 2M0

Dear Charmaine:

Re: 24 – Hour Port at Climax

In considering a 24 hour Port of Entry between Montana and Saskatchewan it is clear that the best choice is the Port of Climax/Turner. In evaluating this decision the nearest 24 hour port to the east at Regway/Raymond effectively provides 24 hour access to central Saskatchewan as well as eastern Montana and western North Dakota. To the west Coutts/Sweetgrass provides access to central Alberta and western Montana.

There is no first-rate access to western Saskatchewan/Central Montana. The crossing at Climax/Turner is the most centrally located port between Regway and Coutts. This crossing at Highway 37 gives the best alternative with the best options including:

- *Good Highway maintenance*
- *Accessibility to central Montana with easy access to the populated areas of western Montana and further south into Idaho and Wyoming*
- *Accessibility to the variety of recreation areas in central and western Montana*
- *Accessibility to Grasslands National Park and Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park*

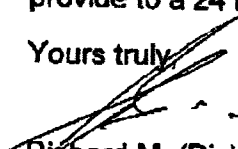
This crossing also allows good access to larger centers such as Havre, Malta, Swift Current and Medicine Hat.

The port itself provides the closest proximity to traveler services for accommodation, food service and automobile repair. Climax, Frontier and Shaunavon are full service communities as is Harlem, Havre and Malta. In addition there is close access to Highway 2 in Montana and the Trans Canada Highway in Canada.

Shaunavon in and of itself provides a close stop off point in Canada with several motel/hotel options, numerous restaurants, fuel service, hospital, ambulance, a variety of stores and other services as well as an active/progressive business community.

We appreciate those who are considering and promoting a 24 hour port at Climax. Please feel free to contact us for further information or details about our business community and services we can provide to a 24 hour crossing.

Yours truly,


Richard M. (Rick) Schneider – President
Shaunavon Chamber of Commerce



Horseshoe Marketing Co-operative

P.O. Box 447

Shaunavon, SK S0N 2M0

www.horseshoetourism.com

February 11th, 2008

Mayor Dickie,

As the premier Tourism Organization in the Southwest, we are fully aware that our accessibility to US visitors is limited by the restricted border access in our area. Increased hours at the Port of Climax would be preferred as a result of the following;

- Increase travel and tourism amongst tourists from both sides of the border.
- Highway 37 is in good condition , has ample services and more direct access to the the Number 1 Highway as well as Highway 2 in Montana.
- The port of Climax provides access to the centre of our Horseshoe Scenic Route and would encourage tourists to explore the entire southwest region of the province.
- The port of Climax is also the quickest way to access Havre for our Canadian travelers wishing to travel south of the border.

Thank you for the opportunity to express our opinion on this matter.

Sincerely,

Horseshoe Marketing Co-operative

EZ Mart




Highway #2 • P.O. Box 249 • HARLEM, MONTANA 59526-0249
(406)353-2335 • (406)353-4890

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

WE ARE IN FULL SUPPORT OF EXTENDING HOURS AT THE PORT OF TURNER. I FEEL IT WOULD HAVE A DRAMATIC EFFECT ON NORTH AND SOUTH CENTRAL MONTANA. BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, I THINK IT IS THE MOST LOGICAL PORT OF ENTRY TO EXPAND CONSIDERING THAT IT IS CENTRAL TO THE OTHER TWO MONTANA 24 HOUR PORTS. I FEEL THE LOCATION WOULD SERVE A LARGER PORTION OF BOTH US AND CANDIAN CITIZENS. TRAFFIC WOULD HAVE A STRIGHT ROAD TO HIWAY 2 WITH THE OPTION TO GO EAST, WEST OR STRAIGHT SOUTH. CONSIDERING THIS PORT WOULD SERVE EASTERN, WESTERN, AND SOUTERN MONTANA MAKES THE PORT OF TURNER THE MOST LOGICAL PORT OF ENTRY TO EXPAND.

WE ARE PREPAIRED TO DO WHAT EVER IS NESSASARY TO ACCOMIDATE ANY INCREASED TRAFFIC.

THANK YOU,


DOUG MCCRACKEN
FLATLAND INC.
EZ MART
HARLEM, MT.



A Limited Liability Company

Scott M. or Heather R. DePriest - Owners
PO Box 155 - Chinook, MT 59523 - (406) 357-4201 - www.AmericanGarageLLC.com

Jay Anderson/Alan VanVoast
Sask-Mont Rural Development
1375 Wing Road
Hogeland, MT 59529

April 3, 2008

RE: Port of Climax US/Canada Border Crossing

To Whom It May Concern,

Why would it benefit my business to keep the Port of Turner/Climax a 24 hour port? Simply put, it will bring people to the community where I live, raise my family, and own a business. As I'm sure you know, small communities along the Hi-Line are slowly dwindling, and I would like to see a project of this magnitude help to prevent that from happening. My husband and I own an Automotive and Truck repair facility in Chinook, Montana which we opened in July of 2006 and would appreciate any extra through traffic that this project would enhance.

Also, being very involved with our local Chamber of Commerce, I truly understand the importance of community support and what it takes to make a small town survive. Please consider my support of this project a vital piece of the growth of Chinook, Montana.

Heather R. DePriest
American Garage, LLC
PO Box 155
Chinook, MT 59523
(406) 357-4201
www.AmericanGarageLLC.com
Email: amgarage@mtintouch.net

MILK RIVER PHARMACY
PO BOX 965
HARLEM, MT 59526
406-353-3535

February 12, 2008

Shaunavon Mayor Dickie
Shaunavon, Saskatchewan

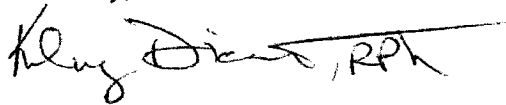
Dear Mayor Dickie,

We would like to offer our support for extended hours at the Port of Turner. Canadian trade has always been a vital part of north-central Montana's economy, but the current hours of operation at our border stations make it difficult to travel back and forth. The Port of Turner is an excellent facility and would be utilized much more if the hours were extended.

Agriculture, retail businesses, tourism, and the service industries on both sides of the border would benefit from extended hours at the port. The Port of Turner could provide a major trade route for towns and cities in Montana and make it much easier to do business with Canada.

The United States and Canada are good neighbors and we have alot to offer each other. People on both sides would benefit greatly from extended port hours.

Sincerely,



Kelcey and Nancy Diemert, owners

Chinook Pharmacy, Chinook
Milk River Pharmacy, Harlem
Western Drug Pharmacy, Havre

R.M. OF FRONTIER NO. 19
Box 30, Frontier, Sask. S0N 0W0
Telephone: 296-2030 Fax: 296-2175

February 22, 2008

Jay Anderson
Montana representative

RE: Port of Climax-24 hour border crossing

Dear Jay Anderson:

I received an e-mail on January 23, 2008 from the Town of Shaunavon requesting a short brief on reasons why our municipality would support the 24-hour crossing at the Port of Climax.

The council's of the Village of Frontier and the R.M. of Frontier # 19 are in full support of the 24-hour border crossing at her Port of Climax. It would benefit the whole southwest.

If it opened up for 24-hour service, it could become a major trucking route from cities in Canada to cities in the United States. Highway 37 is a more natural truck route than others from our major cities south into the U.S.A. It would also benefit each of the communities along the route, in Canada and the U.S.A.

We have Honey Bee Mfg. Ltd. just 2 ½ miles south of Frontier, which is a major exporter of manufactured farming equipment. This would improve the economic diversification of our area by opening up the border to 24-hour service and possibly even expand the growth of Honey Bee Mfg. Ltd.

We also have an airport runway beside the Honey Bee plant that could be utilized in many ways if the border were to open up to a 24-hour status.

Recreation would expand with hockey teams already coming into Canada from the U.S. This would allow the teams uninterrupted access to the north and south so would not be hampered by the short hours of access, at the present time, at the border crossing.

Citizens of the U.S.A. are already utilizing our health care facilities and dentistry so by making it a 24-hour access this would increase the availability of the health and dental services to those who need it at anytime of the day or night.

A 24-hour port would greatly increase free trade for the Canadians and Americans by increasing the hours of the port of Climax.

Thank you for your time spent on this very important matter and thank you for representing the southwest in this great venture to connect the United States and Canada as partners by way of 24-hour access through the Port of Climax.

Yours truly,

Barb Webber
Administrator
Village of Frontier and
RM of Frontier #19



Date: 02/21/08

To: Jay Anderson
From: Steve Peever - Q-Line Trucking Ltd.
RE: Port of Turner, MT / Climax, SK

Q-line Trucking is based out of Saskatoon, SK and we have approximately 200 trucks. We have deck, bulk (grain, liquid fertilizer, NH3), and custom grain bin moving. At the present time we only move our deck fleet (aprox. 150 trucks) into the United States. Our primary freight hauled is farm equipment, and border crossing is always a concern when getting to destinations. By opening a commercial border between North Portal, SK / Portal, ND and Coutts, AB / Sweetgrass, MT, this would give more options for our drivers to cross the border to shorten the distances traveled to destinations.

At the present time, we are only permitted to cross at the Turner / Climax port if freight is delivered to Havre, MT. If this port was opened to commercial use, and 24 hours, it would give us more options for our drivers and customers. This would not only shorten the distance traveled, but speed up the delivery time for our customers. This would increase the amount of traffic in that area which will also benefit all the communities from the added services required. Another benefit for both Saskatchewan and Montana is the increased potential trade between both countries which will be made much easier with a 24 hour commercial port.

If you have any more questions, please don't hesitate to call

updated info: 25 Trucks a month
Time in state 15-20hrs each
Fuel Purchased in state 3000 gal.
Food Purchased in state \$1000⁰⁰

Regards,
Steve Peever
Q-Line Trucking Ltd.

WILLIAM P. OEHMCKE, Mayor
MARK HARSHMAN, City Attorney
LORRAINE MULONET, City Clerk/Treasurer

City of Chinook

PO Box 1177
Chinook, MT 59523-1177
(406) 357-3160, FAX (406) 357-3162

CHERYL SCHULDT, Council person
JAMES NEIBAUER, Council person
FREDA BRYSON, Council person
HEATH RICHMOND, Council person

February 14, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

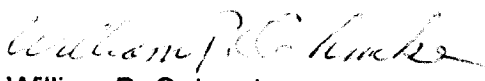
The City of Chinook supports the extension of open hours at the Ports of Turner and Climax. The extension of open hours at the Ports of Turner and Climax would benefit tourism and commercial trade.

Being open more hours per day would allow more trade, allowing both countries to prosper economically. The cities and towns in northern Montana are struggling economically, and the extension of open hours at the Ports of Turner and Climax could be a significant and determining factor in improving this problem.

Being open more hours per day would allow tourism. There are museums, parks and commercial vendors on both sides of the border for the people of each country to satisfy needs by going through the Ports of Turner and Climax.

In conclusion, the City of Chinook supports the extension of open hours at the Ports of Turner and Climax.

Respectfully;


William P. Oehmcke
Mayor

WPO/wpo



TOWN OF SHAUNAVON

P.O. BOX 820

SHAUNAVON, SASKATCHEWAN

S0N 2M0

PHONE: (306) 297 - 2605

FAX: (306) 297 - 2608

February 19, 2008

RE: 24 Hour Port @ Climax, Saskatchewan/Turner, Montana

The Town of Shaunavon strongly supports a 24 hour port of entry at Climax/Turner. It would be of enormous benefit to our community, the region and the Province.

The restricted hours of the port continue to be an obstacle when it comes to economic growth and development, as well as for tourism. Any tourist thinking of coming north to our region or traveling south to your region, who is uncertain of the border hours, may bypass us to get to a 24-hour port of entry.

As our community and the region continues to grow extended border hours are a natural progression. It will allow more access for products and people between the two countries, making our region more attractive for business and development. The economic opportunities in our community and the region will be enhanced with a 24 hour port in close proximity. Businesses and manufacturing plants, such as Honey Bee, will have easier access to their markets and it will add to their economic viability by not having to travel to another 24 hour port.

It will be a boost for tourism, a chance to attract more visitors to the southwest to discover the history and beauty of our area. New markets can be targeted. Residents of our region will find it easier to travel into Montana to their tourist destinations.

An important benefit to having the 24 hour port would be the increased interaction with communities and residents of Montana. The 24 hour port will allow for social, cultural and sports related events between citizens and communities, which are currently restricted by the border hours.

The work done on the Highways No. 37 at the Frenchman Valley several years ago improved access for larger trucks and all vehicles.

Our community, as a service centre in the southwest, would directly benefit from the increased traffic. Whether traveling for business or pleasure, our community can provide fuel, meals, accommodations, health and dental services and a variety of shopping, along with cultural and recreation activities. An increase in traffic would mean that the businesses and services would expand to serve the customer base.

It is important to our community and other communities along and near to Highway 37 to have an 24 hour port at Climax.

Charmaine L. Bernath, R.M.A.
Administrator



February 14, 2008

Dear Jay,

RE: PORT OF CLIMAX BORDER CROSSING

In regards to our previous telephone conversation, please find the below the full support of Edge Transportation and Triangle Freight Services for your efforts in working towards educating the importance of extending the hours of operation for the Port of Climax border crossing.

Edge Transportation / Triangle Freight Services is a 150 truck cross-border trucking company located in Saskatoon, SK. Our trucks currently cross the border more than 10,000 times per year. Having this border open longer would affect our bottom line as drivers wouldn't have to wait until the next day to cross, as well as saving miles by having to cross at Sweet Grass MT or Raymond MT.

Edge Transportation / Triangle Freight Services fully supports the idea of having the Port of Climax open extended hours, or even better 24 hours. Please feel free to contact me directly if there is anything further you require or if you have questions.

Thank you for your lobbying efforts for the very important issue.

Sincerely,

Eric Olauson
Customer Service Representative